

# House District 7

## Karen Parr, Democrat



**DATE OF BIRTH:** August 29, 1931

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** California

**NAME OF SPOUSE:** Charles H. (deceased)

**CHILDREN:** Charles L. Parr, Chipper L. Parr,  
Patricia Carlson  
Nine grandchildren

**RESIDENCE ADDRESS:** 909 John Kalinas Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

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Fairbanks, Alaska 99712

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karen@karenparr.org

**WEB SITE:** www.karenparr.org

**OCCUPATION:** Retired teacher

**LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA:** 40 years  
Fairbanks 1961 to present

**EDUCATION:**  
University of California Berkeley, 1953, B.A.; Oregon College of  
Education, B.S.; University of Alaska Fairbanks, 1966, M.A.,  
1974 Ed. Spec.

**POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:**  
Fairbanks N.S. Borough Assembly, 1975-1978, 1995-2001;  
president, Alaska Municipal League; Alaska Reapportionment  
Board; TVCC Citizens Advisory Council; Professional Teaching  
Practices Commission.

### **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:**

Co-owner, Alaska House & Xanadu, 1976-1999; principal, Karen Parr & Associates (education consulting), 1979-2002; Alaska Society for Technology in Education, 1981-1999; teacher, Fairbanks N.S. Borough, 1962-1976, 1984-1987; chairs of Ethics and Standards, Fairbanks Education Association, 1962-1970; teacher in Oregon, Germany, and Florida, 1953-1961, 1976-1977.

### **SERVICE ORGANIZATION(S) MEMBERSHIP:**

Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, College Rotary, Fairbanks Light Opera Theater, Fairbanks Drama Association, Hillcrest Home for Boys, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

### **SPECIAL INTERESTS:**

Music, drama, dance, reading, travel.

### **STATEMENT:**

The legislative process works best when members of all parties discuss issues in open public meetings, and find solutions that all sides can live with. I am middle-of-the-road. My skills in communicating with people of divergent views have been honed by leadership on the Borough Assembly and Alaska Municipal League.

We need a balanced budget and stable tax policies, forward-looking support of schools and University, properly maintained highways and parks, and efficient public services. New business is attracted by this kind of environment.

After public safety, the most important job of state government is education, because the future of our state depends on the youngsters now in school. They will be our new leaders, doctors, business owners. To me, education reform means we will organize our schools and train our teachers so that every single child learns the basic skills - there is no place in our society any more for incompetents.

But no-fail schools will cost money, and a lot of help from parents and community members. We must find the seed money to make the changes in existing schools, create alternative schools, and provide voluntary programs for at-risk children before they even enter kindergarten. And we must continue to improve health services for pregnant women and small children.

Alaska's resources (fish, game, minerals, wilderness) must be developed carefully, so that present citizens can enjoy them to the maximum, while protecting their existence for our descendants.

*provided and paid for by the candidate*